

Appl. No. 10/605,810
Amendment dated February 25, 2008
Reply to Office Action of November 28, 2008

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached sheet of drawings includes a change to Figure 5. This sheet, which includes Figure 5, replaces the original sheet including Figure 5.

Attachment: one (1) replacement sheet

REMARKS

In the November 28, 2008 Office Action, all of the claims, 1-14, stand rejected in view of the prior art. No other objections or rejections were made in the Office Action.

Status of Claims and Amendments

In response to the November 28, 2008 Office Action, Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 9 to define the claims over the prior art. Further, Applicants have amended the written disclosure and have submitted a corrected drawing to correct errors discovered upon review. Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the examination of this application. Thus, claims 1-14 are pending, with claims 1 and 9 being the only independent claims. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following comments.

Drawings

Upon review, Applicants noticed a typographical error in Figure 5. Specifically, step #130 read "Transmittee folder present," when it should have read -- Transmitter folder present --. Applicants submit herewith a corrected drawing. Applicants respectfully assert that no new matter has been added. Acceptance of the drawing is respectfully requested.

Specification

Upon review, Applicants noticed a typographical error in the written disclosure and have amended the written disclosure to correct the error.

Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

In item 3 of the Office Action, claims 1-3 and 6-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,978,477 (Hull et al.) in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0093675 (Hibino et al.). In item 4 of the Office Action, claims 10 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over

Hull et al. in view of Hibino et al. and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,219,302 (O'Shaughnessy et al.). In item 5 of the Office Action, claims 4, 5, and 12-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hull et al. in view of Hibino et al. and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,289,582 (Hirata et al.). In response, Applicants have amended claims 1 and 9 as mentioned above.

Specifically, claims 1 and 9 now recite that the external stand-alone transmission data management computer has a transmission management folder having transmittee folders, that transmitter folders are stored in the transmittee folders, and that the image data with the associated transmittee data are stored in the transmitter folders.

On page 2 of the Office Action, the document workstation of Hull et al. is identified as the external stand-alone transmission data management computer. Applicants respectfully assert that Hull et al. are silent with regards to the use of folders in the external stand-alone transmission data management computer 108. On page 4 of the Office Action, Applicants respectfully assert that Hibino et al. are cited to show transmittee data being attached to image data and fail to disclose or to suggest a transmission management folder as claimed.

Applicants respectfully assert that it is stated on page 9 of the Office Action that data sent by facsimile is archived and classified by recipient. However, in contrast to the limitations of claims 1 and 9 of the present application, Applicants respectfully assert that O'Shaughnessy et al. teach placing accumulated objects into a general archive folder, but fail to disclose or to suggest the archive folder having transmittee folders or transmitter folders having image data with the associated transmittee data as claimed.

On page 11 of the Office Action, Applicants respectfully assert that Hirata et al. are cited to show a receiving unit that receives image data, and fails to disclose or to suggest a transmission folder as claimed.

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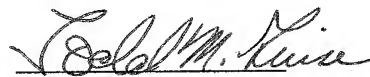
Moreover, Applicants believe that dependent claims 2-8 and 10-14 are also allowable over the prior art of record in that they depend from independent claims 1 and 9, and therefore are allowable for the reasons stated above. Also, the dependent claims are further allowable because they include additional limitations. Thus, Applicants believe that since the prior art of record does not disclose or suggest the invention as set forth in independent claims 1 and 9, the prior art of record also fails to disclose or suggest the inventions as set forth in the dependent claims.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn in view of the above comments and amendments.

* * *

In view of the foregoing amendment and comments, Applicants respectfully assert that claims 1-14 are now in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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